

Delaware Renewable Energy Taskforce

Wednesday, April 11, 2012, 9:30 to 12:00 noon

Public Service Commission Hearing Room

861 Silver Lake Boulevard
Cannon Building, Suite 100
Dover, Delaware 19904

Meeting Minutes

Members present:

Carolyn Snyder, DNREC Division of Energy & Climate and Taskforce Chair
Dale Davis, Delaware Solar Energy Coalition
Finn McCabe, Delaware Solar Energy Coalition
Michael Sheehy, Division of the Public Advocate
Andrea Maucher, Division of the Public Advocate
Mark Neilsen, Delaware Electrical Cooperative
Glenn Moore, Delmarva Power
John Sykes, environmental advocacy
Jim Black, environmental advocacy
Tony DePrima, Sustainable Energy Utility

Scott Lynch, DEMEC
Derick Botha, Motech, renewable energy research and development industry
Janis Dillard, Public Service Commission
William O'Brien, Public Service Commission
Dallas Winslow, Public Service Commission
Stanley Merritt, DuPont, renewable energy research and development industry
Carolyn Snyder, Chair, DNREC Division of Energy & Climate
Tom Noyes, DNREC Division of Energy & Climate

1. Welcome and introductions

John Sykes announced that he has designated Jim Black as the alternate member representing environmental advocacy organizations. Jim is chair of the Executive Committee of the Delaware Chapter of the Sierra Club.

2. Review of agenda

Scott Lynch of DEMEC offered some suggestions for the Roles and Responsibilities document. The chair will update the document based on the Taskforce's discussion.

3. Approval of minutes from March 14, 2012

Glenn Moore moved the approval of the minutes from March 14, 2012. Mark Neilsen seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion, with the exception of Dale Davis, who abstained as he was not at the March 14 meeting.

4. Discussion of public comment format

Carolyn Snyder noted that it had been suggested that members of the public be allowed to comment on agenda items during the meeting, instead of waiting until the end of the meeting. Several members

suggested that this be left to the discretion of the chair. Based on the discussion, Dr. Snyder decided to allow members of the public to offer comments on some items as identified on the agenda.

5. Update on data from the SREC auction

Tony DePrima reported that the SREC auction has gone well to date, and that there were no crashes or glitches in the process. The online FAQ process had worked well. The auction lotteries have been scheduled to run April 18.

6. Update on third party supplier data

Pam Knotts reported on the data on contract end dates from third party suppliers. The data is by contract, not by kWh. 37.5 percent of contracts will expire by the end of December, 2012, 73.6 percent by the end of May, 2013, and 92.2 percent by the end of December, 2013. The first rough numbers on kWh will be reported June 15.

This led the Taskforce into a discussion of future procurement design, including letting older systems into the next auction, and the effect that would have on new development.

7. Discussion of SREC markets in other states

Barry Sheingold offered a presentation, "A Review of State SREC and Solar REC Procurement Programs in the Northeast." He reviewed the procurement design features of six northeast states.

The idea that smaller systems prices could be tied to competitive prices, either as a percentage or dollar amount above the competitive price of larger systems will be introduced as a feature to be considered in straw-man proposals. Contract lengths could have impacts on price impact and volatility down the road.

8. DPL: self-build vs. auctions

Glenn Moore told the Taskforce that DPL is not in the business of self-building for several reasons. He noted that DPL has contracts to buy SRECs from Dover SunPark and Bloom Energy, and that the company doesn't foresee any large commitments (Tier 4) for the next few years.

9. Public comment

Pam Knotts read a letter from Cripple Creek Golf and Country Club, asking that the Taskforce take steps to protect those who didn't meet December 1, 2010 cutoff for participation, including increasing the RPS and PV carve-out.

Stanley Merritt asked that the Taskforce consider other renewable technologies.

The meeting was adjourned.